

two vertebræ of *Meiolania* with the same elements of any Pleurodiran. There is a fundamental difference. *These vertebræ are typically Cryptodiran in Meiolania.*

12. "If Dr. Baur were acquainted with the structure of the hyoid in the Pelomedusidæ he could not have pointed to the character of the hyoid bones as proving the Testudinoid nature of *Meiolania.*"

The hyoid apparatus of *Sternotherus niger* before me is very different from that of *Meiolania*. The copula and the proximal parts of the third pair of cornua are entirely coossified; in *Meiolania* we only have the ossified great cornua, and these show some resemblance to the same elements in *Sternotherus*; but such a similarity is not an affinity. I do not know the hyoids of *Pelomedusa*. In young specimens of *Podocnemis* only the great cornua are ossified.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE VI.

Fig. 1. Atlas of *Podocnemis Dumeriliana*, front view, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Fig. 2. Atlas and axis of *Podocnemis Dumeriliana*, from below, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Fig. 3. Atlas of *Testudo polyphemus*, front view, $\frac{2}{3}$.

Fig. 4. Atlas and axis of *Testudo polyphemus*, from below, $\frac{2}{3}$.

Fig. 5. Atlas, axis, and part of occipital condyle of *Meiolania platyceps*, $\frac{1}{2}$, from below. The elements are placed in the right position.

i^1 = intercentrum 1.

i^2 = intercentrum 2.

o = condyle.

c = centrum of atlas.

c^1 = centrum of axis.

New Haven, Conn.,
April 2, 1889.

IV.—Notes on the Histeridæ taken in Venezuela by Mons. E. Simon. By G. LEWIS.

THE object of this paper is to enumerate the species of Histeridæ captured in Venezuela by M. E. Simon during a journey extending through December 1887 to April 1888, and it will form, I believe, one of a series of memoirs relating to other insects taken by him at the same time. Almost every collection made in the warm parts of America brings to light some curious new form of Histerid, and the present one is not an exception. The *Phelister Simoni* noticed here is a most remarkable species and one which I only place in the genus with doubt. As, however, I have given an outline of the sternal structure (which differs so much from the structure in *Phelister venustus*, Leconte, the type of the genus)

those who study the family will be able to form an idea of its peculiarities and to judge whether or not I have assigned it rightly to *Phelister*. The specimen is unfortunately unique and the sex of it is not apparent without dissection; but I cannot for a moment think the structure of the prosternum can differ in the male and female.

List of Species.

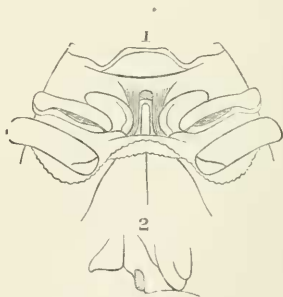
Hololepta humilis, <i>Payk.</i>	<i>Epierus</i> brunnipennis, <i>Mars.</i>
Lioderma 4-dentatum, <i>Fabr.</i>	— notius, <i>Mars.</i>
<i>Phelister</i> Simoni, n. sp.	— vagans, <i>Mars.</i>
— 4-punctatus, <i>Mars.</i>	— fulvicornis, <i>Fabr.</i>
— globiformis, <i>Mars.</i>	<i>Paromalus</i> sincerus, <i>Lewis.</i>
— hæmorrhous, <i>Mars.</i>	— fissus, <i>Lewis.</i>
— panamensis, <i>Leconte.</i>	<i>Saprinus</i> modestus, <i>Er.</i>
<i>Homalodes</i> vapulo, <i>Mars.</i>	— auctus, <i>Sch.</i> (1889).
— gagatinus, <i>Er.</i>	<i>Idolia</i> scitula, <i>Lewis.</i>
— serenus, <i>Er.</i>	— integra, n. sp.
<i>Hister</i> cænosus, <i>Er.</i>	

Phelister Simoni, n. sp.

Oblongus, convexiusculus, niger, subopacus, undique minutissimo strigosus; antennis pedibusque piceis; fronte punctulata, antice impressa, supra oculos subelevata, stria integra leviter impressa in medio retrorsum acuminata; clypeo separato transverso: pronoto stria integra post oculos minute crenulata, subdense punctulato, punctis grossis intermixtis, ante scutellum triangulariter impresso; clytris striis integris subcrenulatis 5 cum suturali basi conjunctis, undique punctulatis; propygidio pygidioque parum dense punctulatis; prosterno in regione striarum prominulo, bistriato, striis anticis conjunctis, lobo separato; mesosterno antice late arcuato, striis transversis crenulatis; tibiis anticis 5-dentatis.

Long. 3 mill.

The minute surface sculpture of this species gives it the appearance of opacity. The frontal stria is lightly impressed and formed like that figured for *Homalodes faustus* and others in Marseul's monograph. The singular structure of the prosternum may be seen by the figures given here. The region of the striæ is built up to the same plane as the mesosternum and then cut off as it were in a diagonal direction, and at this point a pilose tuft is visible (indicated by punctures in the figures), and the lobe is pro-



duced on a much lower plane, as shown in a side view of the prosternum (fig. 2).

The prosternal striæ join in front and the keel at the coxæ begins to widen out gradually to its base. The apices of the anterior femora (shown in fig. 1) are grooved in a remarkable manner and are built up with semicircular edges, and the grooves are very finely but very distinctly transversely striate.

Hab. San Estaban; taken in March 1888.

Idolia integra, n. sp.

Orbicularis, perconvexa, picea, nitida, pedibus antennisque rufis; fronte subtilissime et minutissime strigosa, margine elevato, antice haud interrupto; pronoto, stria marginali integra, elevata, lateraliter distincte sinuato; prosterno minutissime strigoso, lateraliter striato; mesosterno stria antice integra metasternoque disperse punctulatis; pygidio lævi.

Long. 2 mill.

Hab. San Estaban.

This species is exceedingly like *Idolia gibba*, Lewis, but the mesosternal stria is complete in front and the two sternal plates are distinctly punctulate. In *Idolia gibba* the mesosternal stria terminates on each side at a point opposite the prosternal stria, and is therefore widely interrupted, and it is at present the only described species in which it is so.

V.—Note on a new Species of Ampullaria from the La Plata. By JOSEPH W. WILLIAMS.

MR. W. D. GEORGE, of Charlton, has recently sent me an Ampullarian which he collected in October 1888 from some marshes near the La Plata, at Buenos Ayres, in the Argentine Republic. I have, in company with Mr. Edgar Smith, examined the species belonging to this genus which are in the National Collection, and not found one to which this present shell could be referred; I have also looked over the various literature known to me on the genus, and have found no description which could be applied to this form. I therefore name it (provisionally at any rate) *Ampullaria canaliculata*, for a reason which will be readily noticed in the following description.

The shell is large, solid, and thick. Its length is 6 centim.